The Institute for Excellence in Higher education, Bhopal, M.P. organized a Webinar on “Online Learning through SWAYAM” for effective use of online learning platforms which would be the need of the hour. The faculty and students of IEHE and paired institute M.B. College, Imphal, Manipur connected through Google meet platform. This webinar was held on the 30th of May, 2020 and a total of 31 participants participated in it.

The Principal, M.B. College Dr. M. Chandra Singh in his address, insisted the role of online courses for the holistic learning of students. In addition, he also appreciated the effort of IEHE for organising a webinar with a paired institute on such a very important issue and extended his best wishes for the success of the webinar.

Dr. S.S. Vijayvargiya, Director, IEHE delivered his welcome speech and invited the gathering for the webinar. He gave insights on the importance of online learning under the pandemic situation. Dr. Sadhna Pandey, Professor of political science shared her views and experiences about online courses offered through swayam portal. She also highlighted the benefits of translation of offered online courses in different Indian languages in the favour of students and asked faculty members to come forward for it. The resource person of the webinar Dr. R.K. Shrivastava started the session with the exploring SWAYAM an initiative of MHRD, Government of India. He explained the concept and philosophy of MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) and SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active learning for Young Aspiring Minds). He further talked about nine National Coordinators viz NPTEL, UGC, CEC, NCERT, NIOS, IGNOU, IIMB, NITTTR, AICTE, and courses offered by each. He also shared the list of available courses for the incoming semester and said that these online courses are available free of cost. Then in his live demonstration, he describes the various steps from how to login to swayam to register in any courses, it’s learning, submission of weekly assignments, discussion through the forum, transcripts facility, real-time video translation facility and receiving a certificate after successful completion of the course with the proctored examination. He additionally shared his expertise by inviting the faculty members to contribute by translating online courses in local languages and also offering their own MOOCs. In addition to that, he also highlighted a detailed account of the benefit of MOOCs, internship, skill/soft skill development courses, timeline of the incoming semester, the role of a local chapter and how to open it. He pointed out that in
Manipur three local chapters exist right now in technical institutes but none of the higher education colleges. In the webinar, M.B. College has shown interest to open a local chapter from this session.

Dr. Hemlata Verma, EBSB Coordinator, Govt. Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukharji Science and Commerce P.G. College Bhopal, which is also one of the paired colleges, has joined and participated in the webinar. Queries of the participants were clarified by the resource person and the programme came to an end with a joint vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Anita Deshpandey, Professor, Department of political science. IEHE and Dr. L. Dwijendra Singh, Professor & Head, Department of Mathematics, M.B. College, Imphal, Manipur.

Photographs of the Webinar: